

Message Text

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72

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-15 ISO-00 AF-10 ACDA-19 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 SSO-00 CCO-00

NSCE-00 USSS-00 DRC-01 /154 W
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R 101813Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3895

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS PARIS 26445

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SF, FR, UN.

SUBJECT: FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S PUBLIC POSITION ON ME

GOF SPOKESMAN FOLLOWING OCTOBER 10 CABINET MEETING CITED PRIME MINISTER MESSMER'S STATEMENT TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY THE PREVIOUS EVENING AS CONTAINING GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON ME CONFLICT. HE SAID MESSMER'S DECLARATION HAD BEEN APPROVED BY PRESIDENT POMPIDOU, AND HAD BEEN ATTENTIVELY DRAFTED, WITH EACH WORD CAREFULLY WEIGHED. HE ALSO SAID GOF HAD NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT STRICTURES COVERING FRENCH MIRAGE SALES TO LIBYA WERE NOT BEING RESPECTED. FOLLOWING IS OUR TRANSLATION OF OFFICIAL TEXT OF MESSMER'S OCTOBER 9 ME STATEMENT.

BEGIN TEXT: THE EVENTS WHICH WE ARE NOW WITNESSING IN THE NEAR EAST WERE, ALAS, PREDICTABLE. HOW COULD ONE IMAGINE THAT PEOPLE AND NATIONS NOURISHED BY NATIONAL SENTIMENT COULD ACCEPT INDEFINITELY

,
WITH NO HOPE OF A JUST AND EQUITABLE SOLUTION, THE OCCUPATION OF THEIR TERRITORIES? IT IS JUST THIS SOLUTION WHICH IT HAS NOT BEEN POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN DURING THE PAST SIX YEARS, AND FRANCE
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HAS FOR ITS PART NEVER CEASED TO REPEAT IN INTERNATIONAL

BODIES AS WELL AS BILATERALLY THAT THIS SITUATION, IN CONTINUING, WOULD PRODUCE MORE AND MORE SERIOUS DANGERS. THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC HAS STATED THIS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. TODAY THE GOVERNMENT NATURALLY DEPLORES THE LOSS OF HUMAN LIFE AND THE ALREADY HEAVY DESTRUCTION WHICH THESE HOSTILITIES CAUSE. THE GOVERNMENT IS TRYING IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND ELSEWHERE TO SEE IF SOME GOOD CAN COME OUT OF EVIL. OUR ATTITUDE REGARDING A POSSIBLE CEASEFIRE WILL NOT BE DICTATED BY THE SIMPLE DESIRE TO STOP THE HOSTILITIES AND STILL LESS, TO RECOGNIZE INDIRECTLY A TERRITORIAL DIVISION, BUT RATHER BY THE WISH THAT A CEASEFIRE MIGHT OPEN THE WAY TO A REAL NEGOTIATION IN A FRAMEWORK WHICH MUST BE DECIDED AND LEADING TO A FINAL SOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT; A SOLUTION WHICH WOULD CONFORM WITH SECURITY RESOLUTION 242, WOULD BE ACCEPTED BY ALL, AND WOULD INCLUDE FOR ALL PARTIES THE NECESSARY SECURITY GUARANTEES. END TEXT.IRWIN

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